

Message Text

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12

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S/S - MR. GAMMON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

S E C R E T STATE 249441

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LI, IS, ET, SU

SUBJECT: AFRICAN INITIATIVE WITH VATICAN ON JERUSALEM

REF: MONROVIA 6959

1. DEPARTMENT AWARE OF EFFORTS OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS TO GET AUDIENCE WITH POPE FOR SUDAN'S NUMERI AND HAILE SELASSIE RE MIDDLE EAST, PARTICULARLY FUTURE OF JERUSALEM. KING FAISAL REPORTEDLY GAVE EARLY ENCOURAGEMENT TO VISIT. KAUNDA ALSO ASKED ALONG WITH TOLBERT TO JOIN DELEGATION. LIKE TOLBERT AS REPORTED REFTEL, HOWEVER, KAUNDA TOO COMMITTED FOR LAST MINUTE INVITATION AND SENT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER INSTEAD.

2. GRUMMAN OFFICIAL WHO ATTEMPTED TELEPHONE REGINALD TOWNSEND 20 DECEMBER RE AIRCRAFT SALE TOLD DEPT. HE SPOKE WITH A MR. MORGAN IN SAME OFFICE WHO SAID PRESIDENT TOLBERT DEPARTED FOR ROME FOR CALL ON POPE WITH HAILE SELASSIE AND OTHERS. ASSUME MORGAN'S REPORT FALSE. RUSH

SECRET

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